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public entities, you will be hard-pressed to do that ever. I mean now we compare counties to counties, school districts to school districts. We have some methodology, at least, for making some judgments as to how the system's working, how it's working in different parts of the state, that sort of thing. As these hybrids multiply, you will be hard-pressed to make any sort of comparison, because each one will argue that it's a little bit different and, in fact, may well be a little bit different. So what I'm asking you to think about in the long term is, is this going to be a good thing in the long term? I mean, I think now's the time we've got to think about that very seriously. Right now, our big mentality is simply this--government is inefficient, we want to make it more efficient, but we don't want to deal with the problem head-on, we don't want to force the consolidation of school districts or of counties or of any other political subdivisions, all of which right now are neatly laid out by types. Counties deal with roads and a few other things. School districts deal with school districts. Each one has a set, a categorical set of prerogatives and defined duties that you and I know and understand, that the public, more importantly, knows and understands. But we're now, because we don't want to face the question directly of combining, we are now going to encourage them to combine with different kinds of mechanisms. One important way is Senator Wickersham's various suggestions over time with regard to efficiently using or getting entities to work together on things. And please understand that I'm not being critical of that whole effort, because I think there has to be that too. And I'm a little uncertain myself about where we're going here, but as he proposed this last bill, which is extremely broad, extremely well-done, but it opens up that second long-term scenario which will certainly come to be and we will certainly be asking ourselves whether the increased complexity of government that we are creating, this amorphous world of multiple entities, each a little different, whether...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...whether that's a more governable world and a world that the public can understand better than the one we have right now. There are no limitations in this bill, as far as I can see, on what types of entities can merge and, if I'm